

CHAPTER 91. INSPECT PART 141 PILOT SCHOOL AIRCRAFT

SECTION 1. BACKGROUND

1. PROGRAM TRACKING AND REPORTING SUBSYSTEM (PTRS) ACTIVITY CODES.

A. Maintenance: 3650

B. Avionics: 5650

3. OBJECTIVE. This chapter provides guidance for conducting surveillance of a Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulation (14 CFR) part 141 certificated pilot school to ensure that aircraft, programs, and systems are in compliance with part 141.

5. GENERAL.

A. It is of the utmost importance that training aircraft be properly maintained. Minor malfunctions that may be controlled by an experienced pilot could place the relatively inexperienced student pilot in a critical situation.

B. Training aircraft are subject to greater wear and deterioration because of frequent takeoffs and landings. This is particularly true in aircraft with retractable gear. The engines of training aircraft are also very vulnerable to overheating and rapid cooling damage.

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SECTION 2. PROCEDURES

1. PREREQUISITES AND COORDINATION REQUIREMENTS.

A. Prerequisites:

- Knowledge of the regulatory requirements of 14 CFR parts 43, 65, 91, and 141
- Familiarity with the type of equipment to be used by applicant
- Successful completion of Airworthiness Inspector's Indoctrination Course for General Aviation and Air Carrier Inspections, or previous equivalent

B. Coordination. This task will require coordination with aviation safety inspectors (ASI) (maintenance, avionics, and operations).

3. REFERENCES, FORMS, AND JOB AIDS.

A. References:

- 14 CFR parts 45, 47, 133, and 137
- FAA Order 8300.10, Airworthiness Inspector's Handbook; vol. 2, ch. 38, Evaluate FAR Part 91 Operator's Maintenance Records; and vol. 3, ch. 97, Inspect FAR Part 145 Domestic Repair Station

B. Forms. None.

C. Job Aids. None.

5. PROCEDURES.

A. Review any General Aviation Alerts/Weekly Summaries. Review for trends and problem areas regarding the make(s) and model(s) of aircraft the operator is using in the training program.

B. Inspect the Aircraft.

(1) Ensure the following:

- The aircraft is properly certificated
- The Airworthiness certificate and registration are properly displayed
- The aircraft is in an airworthy condition for safe operations
- The aircraft are equipped to perform functions appropriate for the course of training

(2) Inspect the special purpose equipment installed on the aircraft, such as external load equipment, agricultural dispensing equipment, and modifications for handicapped students, for approved data.

(3) Ensure that the equipment installed in aircraft to be used for radio navigation and instrument training is operational and complies with the minimum requirements of 14 CFR part 91, §§ 91.171 and 91.172.

C. Inspect the Aircraft Maintenance Records.

(1) Inspect the aircraft maintenance and alteration records to determine whether aircraft have a current, appropriate inspection, and meeting 14 CFR requirements. Ensure compliance with applicable Airworthiness Directives (AD) and life-limited parts requirements.

(2) Ensure that current weight and balance information is available to the pilot of the aircraft.

D. Inspect the Maintenance Facilities. Ensure that the school has access to facilities and equipment sufficient to maintain the school's aircraft.

E. Inspect Contract Agencies. If the operator uses contractors, such as repair stations, to perform maintenance, (refer to vol. 3, ch. 97).

F. Analyze Results. Review the inspection findings and determine whether the operation is in compliance with regulations.

7. TASK OUTCOMES.

A. File PTRS Data Sheet.

B. Completion of this task will result in one of the following:

(1) If all aircraft are found airworthy, the records are in compliance, and the facilities are satisfactory, notify the operator or the operator's representative of the inspection results.

(2) If deficiencies are found on the aircraft and/or facilities, provide a written confirmation of the deficiencies.

9. FUTURE ACTIVITIES. During future surveillance activities, direct special attention to areas in which deficiencies were found.